

Coins

Bills won't collect Carter's signature —time too important

By Roger Boye

UNLIKE HIS immediate predecessor, President Carter says he will not autograph United States paper money for collectors.

Thousands of persons had sent U.S. currency to the White House when Gerald Ford was President, and the money was returned with the President's autograph. Although his signature was very likely made by an autograph machine, some currency collectors considered the bills prized keepsakes.

And some people didn't stop with just Ford's signature. One enterprising man from Fredericksburg, Va., managed to have a \$2 bill signed not only by Ford, but also by then Vice President Rockefeller, then Treasury Secretary William Simon, Federal Reserve Board chairman Arthur Burns, and several other persons.

But Carter says he has more important things to do, adding that he hopes collectors will understand.

ONE OF THE nation's largest annual coin shows, the Central States Numismatic Society's convention, will be held May 13 to 15 in Milwaukee.

Almost 180 dealers will be at the

Red Carpet Convention Center to buy and sell coins. In addition to the usual coin displays and speakers, the convention organizers are planning a special banquet to honor Richard S. Yeoman, author of the "Red Book," coin collecting's most used reference that is now in its 30th edition.

Governors of the American Numismatic Association also will meet during the convention to again discuss the manuscript for a book to be published on coin grading. The manuscript has been criticized recently for being too complicated and confusing.

THE CHICAGO Coin Club, oldest in the area, will hold its 700th regular monthly meeting on May 11.

"We plan to issue some kind of numismatic memento to mark this occasion," said Saul B. Needleman, the club's first vice president. The club was organized more than 58 years ago and is also one of the oldest in the nation.

This month's speaker will be William Pettit of the Rare Coin Co. of America in Chicago. Meetings begin at 8 p.m. the second Wednesday of each month in the Midland Hotel, 172 W. Adams St. The public is invited.